

## A new silene from Washington

By C. V. MORTON and J. W. THOMPSON

*Silene seelyi*, sp. nov.—Species insignis ex affinitate *S. menziesii*; herba 20 cm. alta; caules graciles, glanduloso-puberulenti; folia sessilia, ovata vel lanceolata, parva, basi angustata, apice acuta, integra, utrinque glanduloso-puberulenta, glanduloso-ciliolata; flores solitarii, pedunculati, pedunculo tenui, glanduloso-puberulento; calyx viridis, non inflatus, obscure 10-nervatus, glanduloso-puberulentus, lobis acuminatis, erectis; petala purpurea, lineari-oblancoolata, integra vel plerumque bifida; stamina non exserta, filamentis basi connatis; ovarium breviter stipitatum, 6 valvatum, ovulis numerosis; styli tres, erecti.

Perennial herb about 20 cm. high; stems slender, about 1 mm. thick, numerous, straw-colored, glandular-puberulent, with internodes up to 3.5 cm. long; leaves opposite, exstipulate, connected at base by a low rim, sessile, ovate to lanceolate, the larger 2 cm. long and 1 cm. wide, narrowed at base, acute at apex, entire, sparingly glandular-puberulent on both surfaces, glandular-ciliolate; lateral veins and veinlets obscure; flowers solitary, terminal, borne between a pair of leaves, the buds in the leaf axils developing into lateral branches, thus producing a false dichotomy; peduncles up to 2 cm. long, very slender, about 0.4 mm. thick, green, glandular-puberulent; calyx cylindrical, the tube about 5 mm. long, 3 mm. broad, green, not scarious, slightly inflated, inconspicuously 10-nerved, the lobes triangular, acuminate, about 2 mm. long, erect, both the tube and lobes densely glandular-puberulent; petals purple, about 11.5 mm. long, linear-oblancoolate, long and narrowly clawed, entire or mostly bifid, bearing a pair of conspicuous interior scales in the throat; stamens not equalling corolla, the filaments linear-subulate, about 9 mm. long, connate at base into a glandular tube about 1 mm. long, the anthers versatile, about 1 mm. long; ovary short-stipitate (stipe about 1 mm. long), 1-celled, 6-valved at apex, the placenta axial, with numerous ovules; styles 3, distinct, about 5 mm. long; mature fruit not seen.

Type in the U. S. National Herbarium, no. 1,566,404, collected in crevices of cliffs along Nigger Creek, Chelan County, Washington, alt. about 1,200 meters, June 25, 1932, by J. W. Thompson (no. 8565).

*Silene seelyi* is related to *S. menziesii*, but may be distinguished from that species (and its various forms described by Greene as species, under the generic name *Anotites*) as follows:

Leaves ovate or lanceolate, broadest below the middle, very small (the largest 2 cm. long), glandular-puberulent and glandular-ciliolate; calyx glandular-puberulent; petals purple, the interior scales conspicuous. . . . . **S. seelyi**

Leaves obovate or oblanceolate, broadest above the middle, larger (up to 8 cm. long), puberulent, the hairs not glandular, usually retrorse; calyx puberulent or sometimes glandular-villous; petals white, the interior scales usually absent. . . . . **S. menziesii**

Named for Mr. Clarence B. Seely, of Leavenworth, Washington, a promising young collector, who was assisting Mr. Thompson at the time the plant was discovered.

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